

UWBe Insights

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | JAN - MAR 2026

Content Table

Awards & Recognitions

Cover Story

Education for All

Health

Climate Action

Integrated Rural Development

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Volunteering

People & Culture

Communications

About Us



Awards & Recognitions



ICC Social Impact Awards 2026

Jury Choice Award for Rural Rising &
Runner-up for Mangroves Matter



Vruksh 2026 -

Recognition by CSR partner Ujjivan Small Finance Bank



National Leadership Award - most impactful NGO
in Environmental and Climate Action
thematic area by Times Aspire



Global Transversality Award - Winner for Rainwater
harvesting and Groundwater management for
One Billion Drops campaign received from
Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha Shri. Om Birla

The kalyani that never dried

Across South India, Kalyanis have been built near temples and settlements to store water for drinking, bathing, rituals, and groundwater recharge. These stepped ponds or wells were traditionally designed to collect rain and spring water and serve communities even during long dry spells, linking water utility with social, cultural, and religious life.



The 134 households of Kottur village in Bagepalli, Karnataka have long depended on their Kalyani only for drinking water. However, time took its toll, and the walls saw cracks and gaps appear. Mud and sediment contaminated the water.

We renovated the Kalyani not only to restore drinking water, but also to increase groundwater recharge & improve water availability. By increasing the size and holding capacity of the Kalyani, more rainwater and spring water can percolate into the ground, strengthening the entire local water system and the spring alive.

Upon rejuvenation, the Kalyani saw an improved structure with increased size and depth, and a storage capacity of close to 1000 kilo litres overall.

After a full day of dewatering, the water level rose by almost 2 feet. It was a clear sign that the spring was alive and strong.

The Kalyani is so central to the village that the community and Panchayat raised ₹1 lakh+ to further increase the height, as well as put safety and protective measures in place.



Outer tank: 23m x 14m x 1.2m
Inner tank: 5m x 8m x 15ft

Cultural significance:

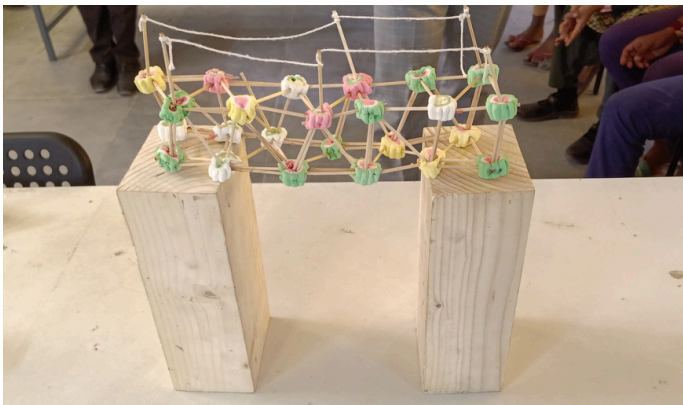
The villagers treat this water as a gift from Gangadevi, the wife of Lord Shiva. The villagers spoke of Queen Nagamma as the first goddess of the Kalyani, who brought water when the whole region faced drought. They now see us as people who were sent by Nagamma to help them. This makes us realize we not only helped them ecologically but also strengthened their sentiments, spiritual and cultural spirit.



Building the Next Engineers of tomorrow

This quarter, we wrapped up the first edition of **Next Engineers**, with 270 students being a part of 16 discovery sessions in Bengaluru.

Fun activities offer practical introductions to engineering design, structural thinking, and problem-solving under constraints. Students have been encouraged to work in teams, stop to think and sketch ideas, and apply creative solutions to their design solutions.



Through 'Build a Bridge', students were challenged to design, build, and test a bridge using toothpicks, marshmallows, and 1m of string.



The 'Critical Load' activity challenged students to ideate and create a load-bearing structure using playing cards, icecream sticks, and tape - attempting to make the most stable structure.

As per exit survey conducted:

99% of students said they learned something new.

97% wanted to participate again.

98% reported having enjoyed the sessions.

88% students said they would consider pursuing engineering.

Women's Day celebrations across cities



To celebrate Women's Day, our team came together with Anganwadi Workers and mothers in Hoskote & Jigani, Bengaluru as a part of our community connect to celebrate the women present. The CDPO was also in attendance.



New location alert!

Early childhood education training & 1st 1000 days training are being conducted for Anganwadi workers and ASHA workers in 2 new locations: Chandauli, Uttar Pradesh & Gaya, Bihar.

Improving the last-mile connectivity of Government health services

In Urban Bengaluru, **129 e-Bikes** were provided to Primary Health Centres, supported by corporate partners **Healthium, Optum, Gainwell, and Parexel.**

In rural areas, another 29 e-Bikes were provided to PHCs in Doddaballapura, Srinivaspura, and Vikarabad supported by corporate partners **Fortrea & others.**



e-Bikes distributed in Hosakote

Supported by **Marvell**, 2 ambulances have also been distributed to centres in Chikkaballapura and Pune. These ambulances enable the health centres to reach people with essential medical support in shorter time periods, improving the quality and efficiency of health services provided.



Ambulance provided in Chikkaballapura



e-Bikes distributed in Doddaballapura

The promotion of electric scooters (e-Bikes) presents a transformative opportunity to bridge the accessibility gap faced by many ASHA workers, particularly in urban and semi-urban settings.

Traditionally, workers encounter multiple barriers to mobility, including safety concerns, lack of affordable transport options, time constraints due to caregiving roles, and limited access to vehicle ownership.



Mobilab kit training conducted

32 Mobilab kits have been distributed and training was conducted, enabling technicians and ANMs working in health centres to easily provide essential health services in rural areas.

Closing the loop: Climate education alongside Climate action

United Way Bengaluru's climate action efforts in the city of Bengaluru focus to a large extent on water conservation, through the construction of percolation wells that cater to groundwater recharge, and work on lakes that need rejuvenation for better water collection and improved ecosystems. However, they also don't stop with the environmental action alone.



54 OBD sessions
were conducted in
quarter 4, reaching
4,035 students and
80 local residents

Alongside **One Billion Drops (OBD)** interventions, sessions are conducted to create awareness on the importance of biodiversity conservation, rain water harvesting, and groundwater recharge. Through these sessions, students learn about the role of percolation wells and groundwater recharge towards saving lakes and waterbodies.

These sessions encourage students to:

- become ambassadors of conservation & biodiversity
- take small steps towards avoiding water wastage & saving water at home & in school
- take initiatives to plant trees, reduce plastic and food waste.
- develop sustainable habits and practices in day to day routine
- be responsible towards nature and biodiversity.

Through our new **environmental education program**, customized modules designed for children aged 10-14 have been conducted. These **interactive sessions** have seen the students drawing pictures, writing stories, and playing games, all while gaining knowledge and interest in the importance, threats, and conservation of lakes, birds, and biodiversity.

33 lake education sessions were
conducted in quarter 4, reaching
500 + govt school students



Highlights from projects across rural locations

An **information center** was inaugurated in **Horticulture University**, with 55 boards describing different species. Supported by **MUFG**, this initiative has reached 120 farmers, 103 school students, and 190 horticulture students.



For the 4th consecutive year, **Applied Materials** celebrated their **Annual Sports Day** with 25 volunteers and 78 students coming together to play a variety of sports. It was a good day for the final-year students to bond with their mentors and build sportsmanship.



Students across **Srinivaspur Taluk** in Kolar district came together for a science exhibition, demonstrating critical thinking and creativity by displaying models.



Saralapathy Panchayat Union Middle School in Coimbatore has seen vast improvements with **Applied Materials'** support, with all major needs of the school met turning it into a model for the schools of this area.



Toilets & handwash facilities are now clean and safe for students to access



A noon meal kitchen and open shed give the students a safe and clean space to eat lunch



Structured sports coaching has increased attendance and engagement in the school



Assistive Aids as tools of empowerment

In a response to needs from disabled communities across 5 different cities, we have worked with corporate partners **State Street** & **Parexel**, distributing a variety of assistive aids in the month of March to make daily life and livelihood opportunities more accessible to People with Disabilities (PwDs).



SHG smart vision glasses handed over in **Mumbai** by Parexel



Assistive devices handed over in Divyang Bhavan **Pune**



20 individuals received SHG smart vision glasses in **Goa**



PwDs in **Bengaluru** shared their experience using Smart vision glasses & Neo-Motion wheelchairs



5 PwDs received Tea Stalls in **Coimbatore**, with senior leadership present to hand them over

Mumbai

Pune

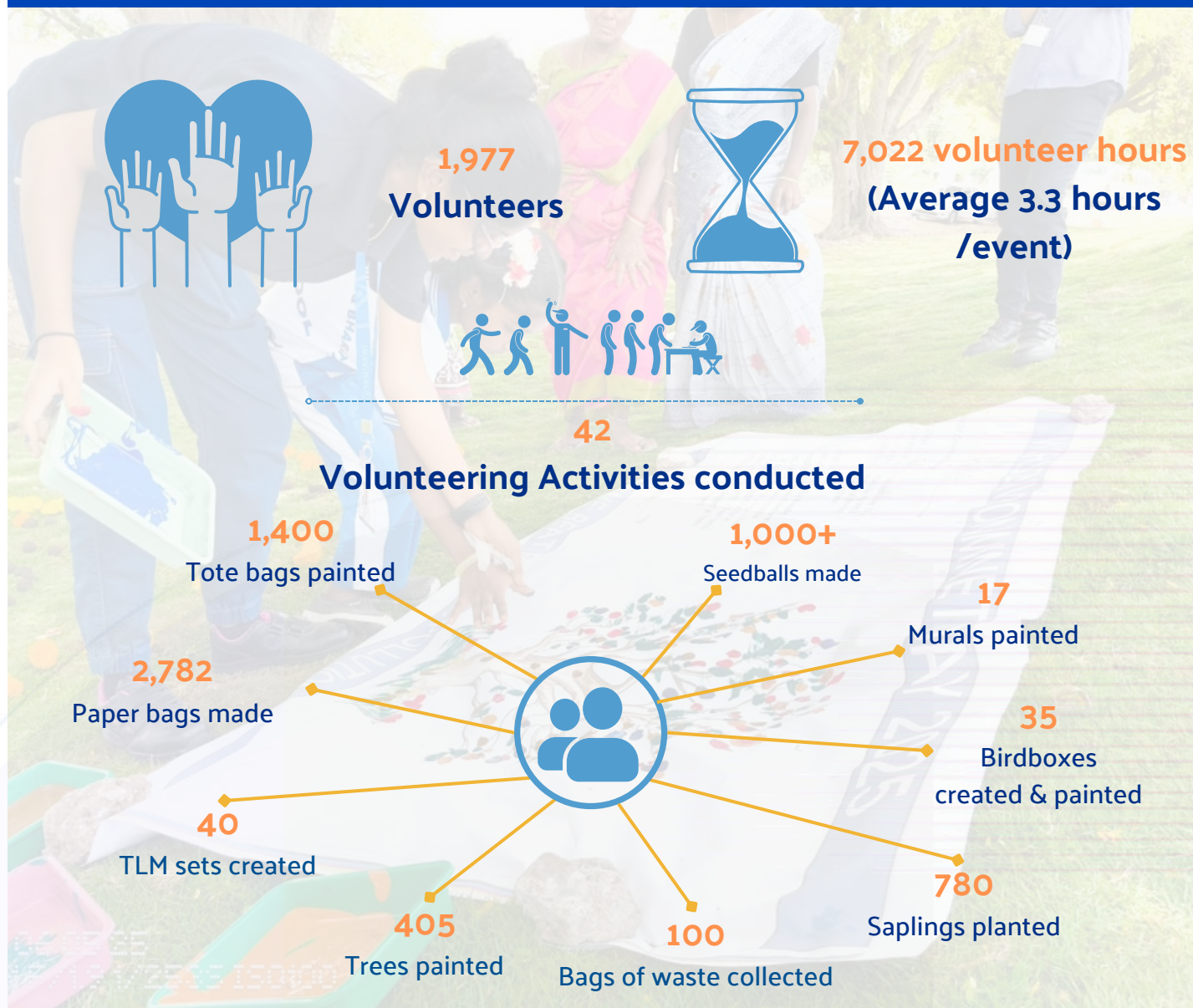
Goa

Bengaluru

Coimbatore



Aligning action with impact: Our volunteering & ESG journey



Volunteers from Corporate Partners (Jan-Mar '26)

Applied Materials
 Caterpillar
 CBA
 Collins Aerospace
 Couchbase
 Delta
 Fidelity
 Flowserve

HCL Foundation
 Jaguar Landrover
 Mphasis
 Parexel
 Swiss Re
 Toyota
 UL Solutions



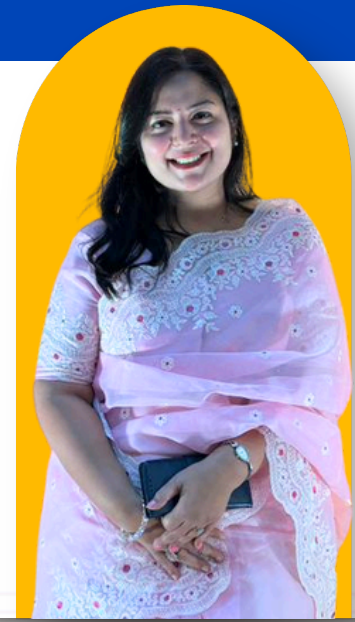
Champion of change

Mother to a 2-year-old toddler, an engineer by academics and a communicator by passion, Neha's journey in the development field reflects her commitment to impactful storytelling and strong brand narratives.

She joined the team in November 2024 with a clear purpose - to bring structure to the Marcomm team and enhance UWBe's visibility as a thought leader across media & CSR.

Today, Marcomm has a well-defined communications plan with structured content buckets, supported by a fully functional website. The office, redesigned in line with the new branding guidelines, now reflects a vibrant and thoughtfully curated environment.

Neha is strongly driven and gets things done. Among other things, she has lead strategic communications, developed and executed communication strategies and campaigns, and driven media outreach and PR coordination. She works collaboratively with all the teams within the organization. Beyond work, she enjoys travelling, cooking, and dancing.



Neha Ashok Ninawe
Asst Manager – Marcomm

Launched 'Volunteering' logo

Volunteering has always been a key pillar of United Way Bengaluru, as we prioritize working with corporate volunteers to create meaningful, measureable impact. Volunteer efforts are aligned with consistent, strategic goals to empower corporates and drive sustainable development.

This quarter, we have launched our Volunteering logo – **The Guiding Star**.

The **star represents achievement, guidance, and shared success**. This symbol expresses community in its own way, sharing the message that real change happens when people come together with purpose.



Refurbished Anganwadi Centre inaugurated in Coimbatore

Coimbatore, Mar. 7: A refurbished Anganwadi centre at Sungam Gandhinagar in Coimbatore was inaugurated by Dr. Ganapathy P. Rajkumar, Member of Parliament, as part of the Model Anganwadi Project launched by United Way Bengaluru (UWBe) with CSR support from Kotak Mahindra Bank, in collaboration with the Department of Women and Child Development.

The initiative aims to refurbish 10 Anganwadi centres across various zones of the Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation, with the objective of strengthening early childhood development for children aged 0-6 years by creating safe and child-friendly learning environments.

The upgraded centres will feature age-appropriate learning materials, improved sanitation facilities, and enhanced access to nutrition for children, pregnant women and lactating mothers. The project is expected to benefit around 1,300 children and positively impact a community of nearly 15,000 people.

The inauguration event was attended by M. Sivaguru Prabhakaran, Commissioner of Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation; R. Ranganayaki, Mayor; R. Vetrivelan, Deputy Mayor; Dhivakumari, District Programme Officer (ICDS);



and Sandhya, Child Development Project Officer (ICDS).

Representatives from Kotak Mahindra Bank who participated in the programme included Karthick C, Regional Business Head - Branch Banking; Vengidasubramanian R, Circle Manager; Guruprasad, Assistant Branch Manager; and Kesavraj, Branch Manager, along with members of the United Way Bengaluru team.

Speaking on the occasion, Himanshu Nivskar, Head, CSR & ESG at Kotak Mahindra Bank, said the bank's CSR initiatives focus on creating sustainable, inclusive and measurable social impact. He noted that strengthening early childhood development through improved

Anganwadi infrastructure plays a vital role in supporting long-term social progress.

Rajesh Krishnan, CEO of United Way Bengaluru, said that under the Born Learning Campaign, the organisation aims to transform Anganwadis into vibrant, safe and inclusive spaces that support learning and development. He added that Anganwadis often represent a child's first step into education, and the partnership with Kotak Mahindra Bank seeks to build an ecosystem where every child has the opportunity to thrive.

The initiative reflects a broader commitment towards education, health, and holistic community development at the grassroots level.

CSRBOX

United Way Bengaluru Announced as Philanthropy Partner for TCS World 10K Marathon 2026

By United Way Bengaluru

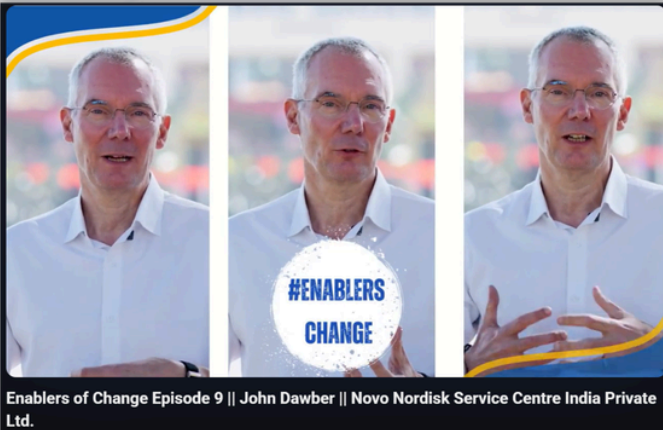
March 2, 2026



United Way Bengaluru (UWBe) proudly steps up as the official Philanthropy Partner for the TCS World 10K Marathon, scheduled to be held on April 26, 2026, in Bengaluru.

This year, UWBe provides a structured fundraising platform that empowers participants to support credible grassroots initiatives in education, environment, women empowerment, sports, healthcare, and community development.

As a trusted partner, UWBe ensures every contribution undergoes rigorous due diligence and monitoring, directing funds precisely to the communities that need them most.



Enablers of Change Episode 9 || John Dawber || Novo Nordisk Service Centre India Private Ltd.



ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳಿಗೆ ಇ-ಬೈಕ್‌ಗಳ ಹಸ್ತಾಂತರ



■ ದಿಕ್ಷುಬಾರಿಧಿ | ಬಾಗೇಪಲ್ಲಿ

ಮಾರ್ವೆಲ್ ಸಾಂಸ್ಕೃತಿಕ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ ಉಪಕ್ರಮದ (ಸಿಎಸ್‌ಆರ್) ಡೆಂಬಲ್‌ದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಯುನೈಟೆಡ್ ವೇ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು (ಯುಬಿಬಿಬಿ), ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಬಾಗೇಪಲ್ಲಿ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮಗ್ರ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾರ್ಯದ ರೂರಲ್ ಡೈಸಿಂಗ್ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮವನ್ನು ಬಾರಿಗೆ ತಡುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಚಿಕ್ಕಣ, ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ, ಜೀವನಾಧಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಸರ ಸುಸ್ಥಿರತೆಯ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಗಮನ ಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕರಿಸಿದ ಹಸ್ತಕ್ಷೇಪಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಸಮುದಾಯಗಳನ್ನು ಬಲಪಡಿಸುವ ದೃಷ್ಟಿಕೋನದಿಂದ ಈ ಉಪಕ್ರಮ ಮಾರ್ಗದರ್ಶನ ಪಡೆದಿದೆ.

ಈ ರೂರಲ್ ಡೈಸಿಂಗ್ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದ ಅಂಶವಾಗಿ, ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿನ ಮುಂಚೂಣಿಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಸೇವಾ ವಿತರಣೆಯನ್ನು ಬೆಂಬಲಿಸಲು ೧೦-ಬೈಕ್ ಹಸ್ತಾಂತರ ಸಮಾರಂಭ ಆಯೋಜಿಸಲಾಯಿತು. ದೂರದ ಅಲ್ಲದೇ ಸೇವಾ ವಲಸೆ ಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿಯ ಸಂಚಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ಸುಧಾರಿಸುವ ಗುರಿಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳಿಗೆ (ಪಿಎಚ್‌ಸಿ) 10 ೧೦-ಬೈಕ್‌ಗಳ ಕೇರಿಕ್ಟಿಗಳನ್ನು

ಹಸ್ತಾಂತರಿಸಲಾಯಿತು.

ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಸೇವೆ ವಿತರಣೆಯ ಮೇಲೆ ದರ್ಫತ ಸಂಚಾರ ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆಯ ಪ್ರಾಯೋಗಿಕ ಪರೀಕ್ಷಾ ಮತ್ತು ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಫಲಿತಾಂಶಗಳನ್ನು ವೇಗಗೊಳಿಸುವಲ್ಲಿ ಜನರು-ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ-ಪಾಸಗಿ ಸಹಭಾಗಿತ್ವದ ಮಹತ್ವವನ್ನು ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರದ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಎತ್ತಿ ತೋರಿಸಿದರು. ಪ್ರಾರಂಭ ಹಂತದಲ್ಲಿನ ಪಿಹುಬಾಲನ ಅಲ್ಲದೆ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟವನ್ನು ರೂರಲ್ ಡೈಸಿಂಗ್ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮವು ಸುಧಾರಿಸಿದೆಯಲ್ಲದೆ, ತಾಲೂಕು ಮೂಲಸೌಕರ್ಯವನ್ನು ಬೆಂಬಲಿಸಿದೆ. ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರನ್ನು ಉತ್ತಮ ಪಡಿಸಿದೆ, ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ಮಾನದಂಡಗಳನ್ನು ಉತ್ತಮ ಪಡಿಸಿದೆ. ಇದಲ್ಲದೇ ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳಿಗೆ ಸೌಕರ್ಯದ ದೀಪಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ೧೦ ಬೈಕ್‌ಗಳಂತಹ ಜೀವನೋಪಾಯ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಸುವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲಗಳನ್ನು ಸುಧಾರಿಸಿದೆ. ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಕಲೆಕ್ಟರೇಟ್, ಮಾರ್ವೆಲ್ ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ, ಯುನೈಟೆಡ್ ವೇ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಮತ್ತು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಮುದಾಯದ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳು ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ ವಿಶೇಷ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಸಮುದಾಯದ ನಾಯಕರು ಈ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾಲ್ಗೊಂಡರು.

ABOUT US

United Way Bengaluru (UWBe) is a part of United Way Worldwide, the largest NGO network of over 1,100 chapters in 36 countries. Since 2008, UWBe has been dedicated to working in underserved locations and marginalized communities. Over 17 years, the organization's reach extended to 17 states, with a special focus on remote areas and aspirational districts. United Way Bengaluru works in five key areas : Climate Action, Education for All, Integrated Rural Development, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) and Volunteering. Aligned with its mission, the organization brings together unified efforts from CSR partners, civic bodies and local communities to work collaboratively towards solutions. The organization carries a global image with a 'local heart' committed to creating meaningful change in the lives of the local communities.

VISION



United Way Bengaluru envisions a world where all individuals and families achieve their human potential through education, income stability, and healthy lives.

MISSION



United Way Bengaluru seeks to improve lives by mobilizing the caring power of communities around the world to advance the common good.



Flagship Campaigns

United Way Bengaluru

Building No. 5, 3rd Floor, Crimson Court,
Jeevan Bima Nagar Main Road, HAL 3rd Stage,
Bengaluru -560075 , Karnataka

 www.uwbengaluru.org

Follow us on

